



**For Release: Thursday, October 11, 2018**

**18-1645-NEW**

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY INFORMATION OFFICE: New York City, N.Y.

Technical information: (646) 264-3600 BLSinfoNY@bls.gov [www.bls.gov/regions/new-york-new-jersey](http://www.bls.gov/regions/new-york-new-jersey)

Media contact: (646) 264-3620

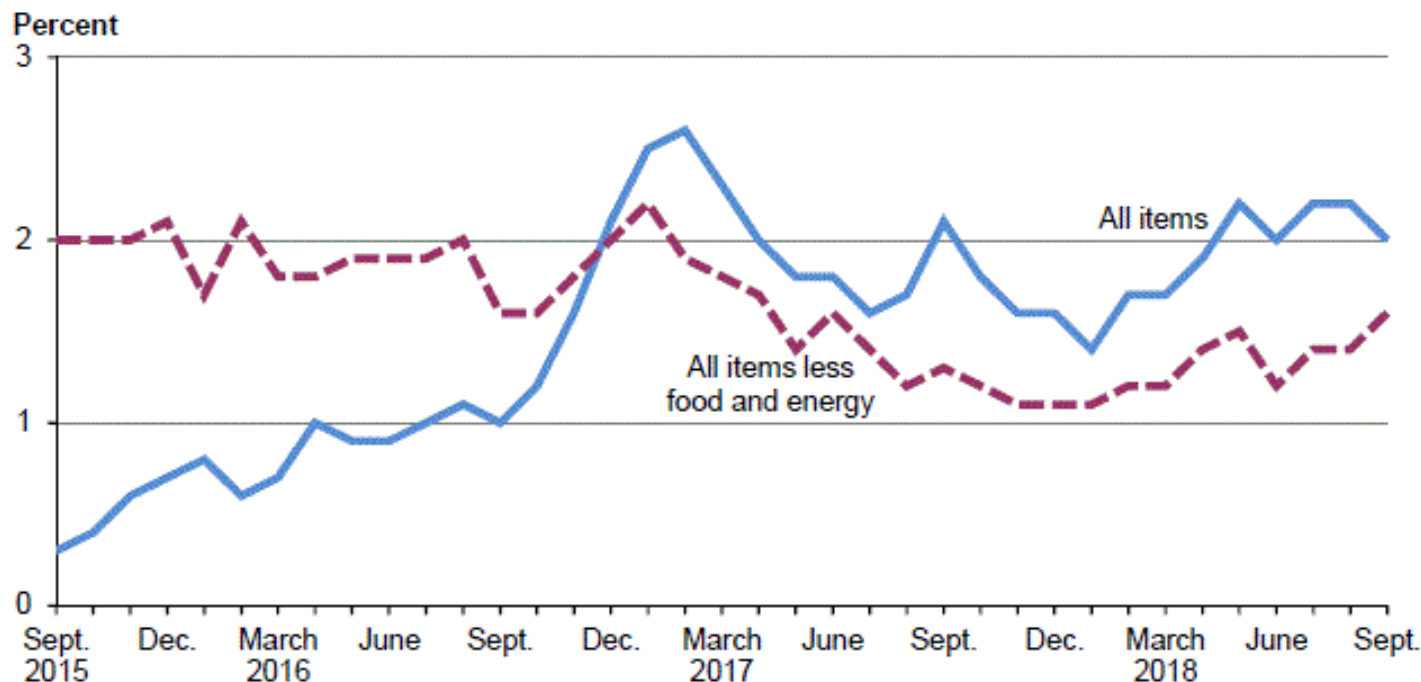
## Consumer Price Index, New York-Newark-Jersey City – September 2018

### Area prices up 0.4 percent over the month and 2.0 percent over the year

Prices in the New York-Newark-Jersey City area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose 0.4 percent in September, after three months of little change, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli attributed the rise to price increases for food and other non-energy items. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the year, the CPI-U increased 2.0 percent. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 1.6 percent. (See [table A](#) and [chart 1](#).) Price increases for shelter drove the 12-month change in both indexes. (See [table 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, New York-Newark-Jersey City, September 2015–September 2018**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Food

The September food index increased 0.7 percent after no change in August. Prices for food at home jumped 1.0 percent. Prices increased in five of the six food categories, which included a wide variety of groceries, such as bread and lettuce. Prices for food away from home rose 0.3 percent, following two consecutive months of no change.

Over the year, the food index rose 3.1 percent. For food away from home, prices were 3.4 percent higher. For food at home, prices were 2.9 percent higher, the largest 12-month percent increase recorded since April 2015.

## Energy

Over the month, energy prices were unchanged, following two consecutive declines. A 0.3-percent decrease in gasoline prices was offset by a 0.2-percent increase in household energy prices. Within household energy, prices for electricity rose 1.7 percent. Prices for natural gas, on the other hand, fell 3.1 percent in September, following a 3.0-percent drop in August.

For the year ended in September 2018, the energy index increased 5.0 percent. Gasoline prices were up 5.2 percent, and household energy prices, 4.8 percent. Natural gas prices were 6.1 percent higher, and electricity prices were 0.9 percent higher.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.4 percent in September. Often up at this time of year, apparel prices rose 3.4 percent, after climbing 7.6 percent in August. Medical care prices jumped 1.4 percent. Education and communication prices increased 0.5 percent, and household furnishings and operations rose 0.4 percent. Shelter prices rose 0.2 percent, primarily due to higher prices for out-of-town lodging.

From September 2017 to September 2018, the index for all items less food and energy rose 1.6 percent. Medical care prices increased 3.2 percent. Shelter prices rose 2.0 percent, including a 2.3-percent rise in owners' equivalent rent and a 1.6-percent increase in residential rent. Two other categories were up by at least 1.0 percent—other goods and services (2.3 percent) and education and communication (1.1 percent).

**Table A. New York-Newark-Jersey City CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)**

Month	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.5	2.2	0.9	1.9	0.1	-0.5	0.2	0.8	0.6	2.5	0.4	1.4
February.....	0.6	2.4	-0.2	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.3	2.6	0.5	1.7
March.....	0.1	1.9	0.4	1.3	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.7	0.0	2.3	0.0	1.7
April.....	-0.2	1.4	0.0	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.4	1.0	0.1	2.0	0.3	1.9
May.....	0.1	1.4	0.5	1.9	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.9	0.1	1.8	0.4	2.2
June.....	0.3	1.8	0.0	1.7	0.2	0.1	0.2 <sup>(r)</sup>	0.9 <sup>(r)</sup>	0.2	1.8	0.1	2.0
July.....	0.2	2.1	0.1	1.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.0	-0.2	1.6	0.0	2.2
August.....	0.1	1.7	-0.2	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.1	0.2	1.7	0.1	2.2
September.....	0.3	1.6	0.0	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.5	2.1	0.4	2.0
October.....	-0.6	1.1	-0.2	1.3	-0.1	0.4	0.1	1.2	-0.2	1.8		
November.....	0.1	1.2	-0.4	0.8	-0.2	0.6	0.2	1.6	-0.1	1.6		
December.....	0.0	1.5	-0.5	0.3	-0.4	0.7	0.1	2.1	0.1	1.6		

Footnotes:  
(R) = revised.

## CPI-W

In September, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 270.298, up 0.4 percent over the month. The CPI-W rose 1.9 percent over the year.

---

**The October 2018 Consumer Price Index for New York-Newark-Jersey City is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, November 14, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).**

## Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/cpi](http://www.bls.gov/cpi) and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf).

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE:Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The New York-Newark-Jersey City, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa., Core Based Statistical Area includes Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Union Counties in New Jersey; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.



**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA, not seasonally adjusted (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	July 2018	Aug. 2018	Sept. 2018	Sept. 2017	July 2018	Aug. 2018
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All items .....	274.073	274.441	275.455	2.0	0.5	0.4
All items (1967=100) .....	792.308	793.370	796.303			
Food and beverages .....	267.197	267.351	269.321	3.1	0.8	0.7
Food .....	267.302	267.423	269.323	3.1	0.8	0.7
Food at home .....	256.679	256.820	259.499	2.9	1.1	1.0
Cereals and bakery products .....	299.330	304.336	308.903		3.2	1.5
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	254.407	253.685	253.060		-0.5	-0.2
Dairy and related products .....	222.495	224.308	225.880		1.5	0.7
Fruits and vegetables .....	323.239	325.772	329.982		2.1	1.3
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1) .....	252.946	249.937	254.493		0.6	1.8
Other food at home .....	228.701	226.603	230.264		0.7	1.6
Food away from home .....	289.604	289.699	290.532	3.4	0.3	0.3
Alcoholic beverages .....	261.241	261.847	264.753	3.5	1.3	1.1
Housing .....	298.964	298.629	299.187	2.2	0.1	0.2
Shelter .....	376.707	377.549	378.195	2.0	0.4	0.2
Rent of primary residence .....	388.214	390.007	389.528	1.6	0.3	-0.1
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(2) .....	384.019	385.278	385.570	2.3	0.4	0.1
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(2) .....	383.544	384.801	385.092	2.3	0.4	0.1
Fuels and utilities .....	205.035	199.521	199.839	4.8	-2.5	0.2
Household energy .....	197.285	191.280	191.627	4.8	-2.9	0.2
Energy services .....	187.246	180.764	180.701	2.3	-3.5	0.0
Electricity .....	192.265	185.081	188.233	0.9	-2.1	1.7
Utility (piped) gas service .....	168.665	163.643	158.616	6.1	-6.0	-3.1
Household furnishings and operations .....	108.783	107.994	108.445	0.3	-0.3	0.4
Apparel .....	118.532	127.486	131.878	-0.1	11.3	3.4
Transportation .....	224.456	223.356	222.138	2.2	-1.0	-0.5
Private transportation .....	212.744	211.863	210.363	2.7	-1.1	-0.7
New and used motor vehicles(3) .....	92.324	91.934	89.504		-3.1	-2.6
New vehicles(1) .....	200.922	199.778	200.860		0.0	0.5
Used cars and trucks(1) .....	270.890	271.128	259.428		-4.2	-4.3
Motor fuel .....	238.190	237.097	236.359	5.3	-0.8	-0.3
Gasoline (all types) .....	237.112	236.021	235.281	5.2	-0.8	-0.3
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4) .....	236.541	235.409	234.643	5.1	-0.8	-0.3
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5) .....	243.552	242.456	242.175	5.8	-0.6	-0.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4) .....	243.041	242.278	241.653	5.5	-0.6	-0.3
Motor vehicle insurance(1) .....	744.758	739.734	749.008		0.6	1.3
Medical care .....	484.915	484.875	491.881	3.2	1.4	1.4
Recreation(3) .....	123.307	122.693	122.709	-0.8	-0.5	0.0
Education and communication(3) .....	141.696	142.861	143.590	1.1	1.3	0.5
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1) .....	1,167.923	1,191.912	1,196.632		2.5	0.4
Other goods and services .....	432.066	431.587	432.152	2.3	0.0	0.1

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA, not seasonally adjusted (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	July 2018	Aug. 2018	Sept. 2018	Sept. 2017	July 2018	Aug. 2018
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All items .....	274.073	274.441	275.455	2.0	0.5	0.4
Commodities .....	191.481	192.509	193.490	2.1	1.0	0.5
Commodities less food and beverages .....	145.482	146.847	147.318	1.3	1.3	0.3
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	187.184	190.418	191.625	2.0	2.4	0.6
Durables .....	93.037	92.276	91.913	-0.8	-1.2	-0.4
Services .....	344.033	343.969	345.056	2.0	0.3	0.3
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	264.917	265.302	266.057	1.9	0.4	0.3
All items less shelter .....	233.478	233.643	234.836	2.0	0.6	0.5
Commodities less food .....	149.855	151.206	151.753	1.4	1.3	0.4
Nondurables .....	228.889	230.746	232.339	2.7	1.5	0.7
Nondurables less food .....	191.730	194.829	196.132	2.1	2.3	0.7
Services less rent of shelter <sup>(2)</sup> .....	319.561	318.480	320.090	2.0	0.2	0.5
Services less medical care services .....	332.243	332.156	332.635	1.8	0.1	0.1
Energy .....	215.616	211.412	211.348	5.0	-2.0	0.0
All items less energy .....	281.648	282.470	283.598	1.8	0.7	0.4
All items less food and energy .....	286.094	287.031	288.048	1.6	0.7	0.4

**Footnotes**

- (1) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.
- (2) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.
- (3) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
- (4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
- (5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.